**Allotment of land to Pepsi company**

2304. SHRI P. UPENDRA: will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pepsi has approached Government with a request to allot 10,000 acres of land for their project;

(b) if so, whether Government have agreed to allot the land; and

(c) what are the reasons for favouring this multi national company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) As reported by M/s. Pepsi Foods Limited, the Company has not approached any Government for allotment of land.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Permission to farmers for sale of paddy produce**

2305. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have allowed farmers to sell their paddy produce to polish rice freely without any licence etc.;

(b) if so, the details therof and since when; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per Rice Milling Industry (Regulation) Act, 1958 & Rules, 1959 certain records are to be maintained by millers which are necessary for collection of levy etc. Also, as per the provisions of the Act, the millers have to use modern machinery for rice milling to avoid wastages and obtain better quality of by-products, for example, bran and husk, which can be used for extraction of oil & energy production respectively.

**Agrobased industries in Bihar**

2306. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any plans for developing agro-based industries in the State of Bihar to provide employment to the rural youth in the State; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) While no State-specific Scheme has been prepared, Ministry of Food Processing Industies has formulated and are operating a number of developmental Plan Schemes for providing assistance for development of food processing industries during the 8th Plan which inter-alia include assistance to State Government organisations/co-operative bodies/voluntary organisations/joint sectors etc. for setitng up or enlarging food processing facilities, developing backward linkages with farmers, marketing support, pork, poultary and